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REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 21-36 and 49-57 are pending in the application. In the Office Action Made Final at hand, Claims 1-10, 12, 21-34, 36 and 49-57 are rejected, and Claims 11 and 35 are objected to.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 11 and 35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, the Applicant has amended base Claim 1 to include the limitations of dependent Claim 11 and the intervening claims, and base Claim 21 to include the limitations of dependent Claim 35 and the intervening claims. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1 and 21, as amended.

In addition, base Claim 50 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent Claim 11 and the intervening claims, and base Claim 53 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent Claim 35 and the intervening claims. Consequently, Claims 50 and 53, as amended, are also in condition for allowance. Since the amendments to Claims 1, 21, 50 and 53 merely add the limitations of pre-existing Claims 11 and 35, no new matter or new considerations are added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, dependent Claims 3, 5 and 8 have been amended to be dependent upon Claim 1, dependent Claims 24, 26, 29 and 32 have been amended to be dependent upon Claim 21, and dependent Claim 55 has been amended to be dependent upon Claim 53. With dependent Claims 3, 5, 8, 24-27, 29, 32, 49, 51, 52, 55 and 57 being dependent upon respective base Claims 1, 21, 50 and 53, as amended, those claims are also in condition for allowance.

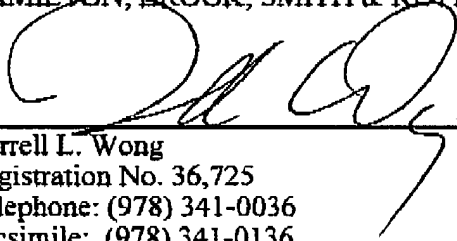
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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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